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A firefighter pours water on the remnants of a farmhouse near Kane, Man., on Wednesday. Four children are dead after the fire broke out around midnight. TREVOR HAGAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mom saves three kids from fire; four die

Near Kane. Farmhouse was located about 95 km southwest of Winnipeg

A mother was able to save three of her children, but four others died in an early morning house fire Wednesday in the rural municipality of Morris.

"The adults escaped. The three youngest children were saved by the mother. The four older children who were in the second level of a two-storey home perished in the blaze," said Ralph Groening, reeve for the RM.

Groening said volunteer fire crews tried to put up a ladder to the second-floor window as the home burned.

"The fire was too far advanced. They were unable to go into the building. It simply wasn't safe."

"One adult was taken to hospital suffering from smoke inhalation resulting from his efforts to save his children."

Friends have identified the parents as Jake Froese and Doralee Eberhardt. Several local media outlets identified the four dead boys as Henry, Danny, Timmy and Bobby. They ranged in age from nine to 15. People grieved their loss on Facebook.

The blaze broke out near the tiny community of Kane, about 95 kilometres southwest of Winnipeg.

Little remained of the 90-year-old farmhouse, but a storage shed 20 metres away and pine trees surrounding the blackened, smoldering foundation appeared untouched by the flames.

The municipality's volunteer fire chief said it was the father who made the emergency call. The man saw smoke coming from his house as he was returning from work, Bernard Schellenberg said.

Schellenberg, who was not at the scene, said the emergency call came in at around 12:15 a.m., and about 20 volunteer firefighters from nearby communities responded in four trucks.

Environment Canada indicated the temperature in the Morris area at the time was -27 C with the wind chill.

The fire is under investigation by the Manitoba Fire Office and the RCMP, Schellenberg said.

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Disaster prevention

Councillors seek safety report on housing near rail

Citing a wish to avoid the same type of disaster that befell the Quebec town of Lac-Mégantic, two councillors have asked the public service to explore how to improve safety for new developments near railway lines.

Authored by councillors Matt Allard (St. Boniface) and Jeff Browaty (North Kildonan) and brought to Wednesday's city council meeting, the motion asks for a report along with recommendations to come back in 120 days.

The motion also makes reference to the Guidelines for New Development in Proximity to Railway Operations, which the Federation of Canadian Municipalities published in 2013.

There was some confusion during Wednesday's meeting regarding whether the motion should go to infrastructure renewal and public works or to the property and development committee.

Ultimately, council chose to automatically refer it to property and development.

BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

Coun. Matt Allard addresses his council colleagues during Wednesday's meeting.
BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

Coun. Russ Wyatt says all six projects approved to go forward to the Building Canada Fund should be submitted, not only four. BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

Withheld funding requests irk Wyatt

Infrastructure projects. Councillor questions why mayor listening to 'junior bureaucrat'

BERNICE PONTANILLA
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A city councillor is angry that two major infrastructure projects for Winnipeg have not been sent to the federal government for funding consideration.

Coun. Russ Wyatt asked Mayor Brian Bowman during Wednesday's council meeting why he's taking directions from a "junior bureaucrat" at the provincial level when it comes to the city's infrastructure priorities.

Wyatt was referring to a letter the city was sent on the projects being put forward to the Building Canada Fund.

Last June, council voted in favour of submitting six projects. However, only four — the Waverley Street underpass, Marion Street improvements, the Chief Peguis Trail extension from Main Street to Route 90 and the widening of Kenaston Boulevard from Ness to Taylor avenues — have been sent.

The two left aside are the Louise Bridge replacement and the extension of the William Clement Parkway.

"This is a real concern to me; this is almost dereliction of duty" of the administration, said Wyatt during the council-meeting lunch break.

"On top of that, they get a letter from some bureaucrat within the provincial government — 'cause right now there's nobody in charge there, I can tell you that — but somebody sends us a letter telling the mayor of the City of Winnipeg and councillors that we have to prioritize our projects? You guys prioritize your projects; here's our prioritization, and there's six of them."

Wyatt said the Louise Bridge project includes a rapid-transit component, since it could be used for a future leg to Transcona.

Bowman said that while he wasn't on council last June when the vote took place, he has every intention of seeing that the six projects are submitted to the Building Canada Fund.

Quoted

"This is a real concern to me; this is almost dereliction of duty."

Coun. Russ Wyatt

Mayor declines revisiting Carlton decision

Councillors openly lobbied Mayor Brian Bowman on Wednesday to reconsider council's decision on True North's plan to develop the site of the former Carlton Inn.

The comments came during the question period for the mayoral portion of the meeting, when councillors Jason Schreyer, Ross Eadie and Russ Wyatt challenged the wisdom of forcing an expression-of-interest process onto CentreVenture for 220 Carlton St.

"Council made the right decision based on the information they had back in January, and since then, I think the press conference by Mr. (Mark) Chipman was a bit of an earthquake, and the video was very impressive," said Wyatt, referring to the True North video that was made public during the Chipman event on Feb. 4.

"(Bowman) did a fine job and he continues to do so, but I think we can hopefully find a way to bring the parties together, that's my hope, to find a solution between True North and CentreVenture and the city."

Bowman said he has reached out to the board chairs of both CentreVenture and the Winnipeg Convention Centre to see how they "can move forward in a collaborative way."

As for the expression of interest, Bowman wouldn't commit to revisiting that decision: "What I've been saying all along is that where there's public money, there needs to be public accountability."

BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

Mayor Brian Bowman
BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

The Forks' new snow-clearing brush machine has been leaving hundreds of blue bristles behind instead of smooth surfaces. SEAN LEDWICH/FOR METRO

Blame blue bristles on faulty brush

The Forks. Full-time crew of six devoted to trail maintenance will be asked to clean up the litter, spokeswoman says

SEAN LEDWICH
winnipeg@metronews.ca

A faulty brush may be to blame for hundreds of blue plastic bristles currently littering The Forks' Red River Mutual Trail.

The cylindrical brush, spun by a machine to clean snow from the 6.1-kilometre skating trail, was newly purchased this year, said The Forks spokeswoman Chelsea Thomson.

"We're not sure what the issue is, so we put in a call to the manufacturer to find out if it's this particular brush."

The 25-centimetre-long stiff plastic bristles detached from the brush singly and in small bunches. They float, which means they could theoretically end up in Hudson Bay and join the North Atlantic garbage patch someday.

A full-time crew of six devoted to trail maintenance will be asked to clean up the bristles when they see them, but they spend most of their time in machinery rather than on foot, Thomson said.

"We will add cleanup of the bristles to regular maintenance and also hope the general public will help out."

The trail has three garbage cans per kilometre, along with recycling cans.

Experimental Lakes researcher Michael Rennie, who studies micro-plastics in Lake Winnipeg, said his kids brought some of the bristles home from the skating trail.

People should not be too concerned about the environmental impact, he said.

"There's a large dilution effect there, so the specific impact of that one particular item is probably low," Rennie said.

Unknown factors such as persistence of floating and breakdown rate would paint a clearer picture, he said. "If I find blue bristles on (Lake Winnipeg) beaches, I'll be able to tell you if it's a problem or not."

A spokesperson for Conservation and Water Stewardship said the fine for littering on a waterway is $200 for an individual and $2,500 for a corporation.

Red River Co-op payout totals $36 million

Been waiting for your Red River Co-op cheque? It might show up in your mailbox today.

Red River Co-op's board of directors said the Winnipeg-based co-operative will be mailing out 229,570 cheques totaling $36 million to its members. The average cheque is about $160.

The co-op currently has 31 gas bars, four cardlocks and four food stores and will be opening a new gas bar, carwash and convenience store this spring in the Bridgwater area on Winnipeg's Centre Street.

"The combination of Equity and Cash Back and full customer service in all commodities and departments continues to contribute to our success as a Co-op and has assisted in adding value for our members. There is no better investment than a $5 lifetime membership," said Gordon Machej, president of the board of directors, in a press release.

Doug Wiebe, Red River Co-op general manager CONTRIBUTED

The cheques are a few weeks later than normal. Signs posted in co-op stores said a new auditing process and a change to the year-end review date was the reason behind the delay. METRO

Silver Heights

Two suspects nabbed in convenience store heist, police say

Police have charged two men in connection to an armed robbery at a convenience store in the Silver Heights neighbourhood last month.

The Major Crimes Unit began investigating after two men, one armed with a weapon, made off with cash and cigarettes from a store in the 2300 block of Ness Avenue in the early morning hours of Jan. 18.

The lone clerk working at the time was not injured.

After identifying a pair of suspects, police arrested Morgan Marcel Leclerc, 20, of Winnipeg earlier this month.

Leclerc is charged with robbery, disguise with intent, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose and failing to comply with a probation order.

A second suspect was arrested Monday.

Richard Scott Rayland, 21, of Winnipeg is charged with robbery, disguise with intent and failing to comply with a probation order for his alleged involvement.

Both accused have been detained in custody. METRO

Wardlaw Avenue

Winnipeg taxi driver robbed

A taxi driver is unhurt after he was robbed by two men on Tuesday, Winnipeg police say.

The driver was robbed by two men in the 500 block of Wardlaw Avenue just before midnight, say police.

The men threatened the driver with a weapon and made off with money and personal property. Police are looking for two aboriginal men, 20-30 years old. The first one is described as tall and slim, and the second as heavy. METRO

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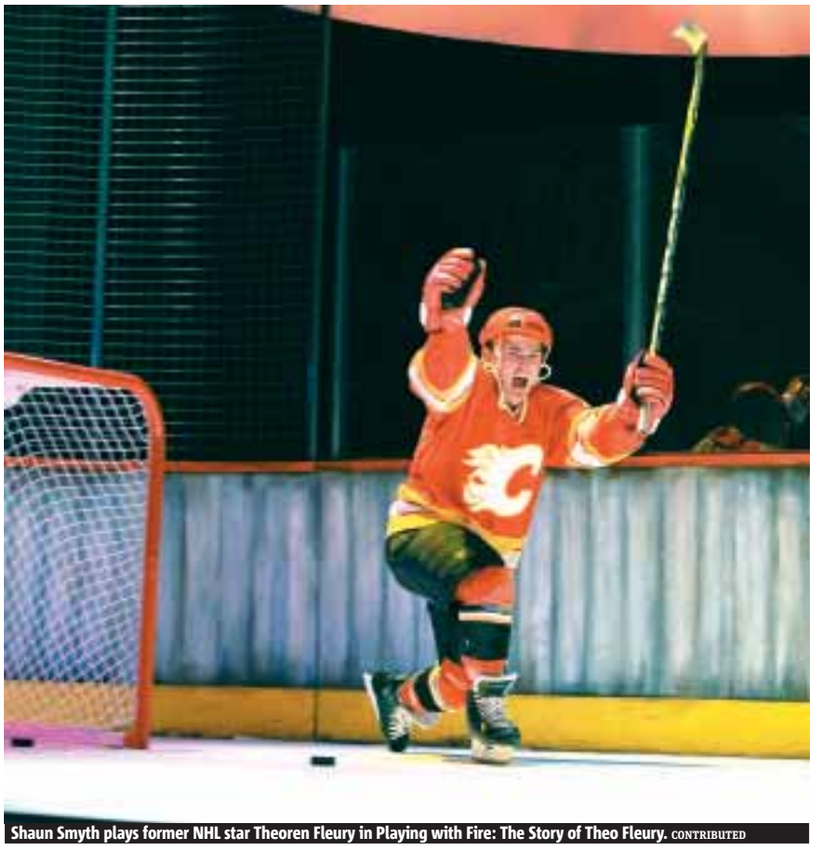

Shaun Smyth plays former NHL star Theoren Fleury in Playing with Fire: The Story of Theo Fleury. CONTRIBUTED

A play about more than just hockey

Playing with Fire.
Theo Fleury's story explores his career, addictions and abuse

BACKSTAGE PASS
Jared Story
winnipeg@metronews.ca

Theoren Fleury's story is much bigger than hockey.

Playing with Fire: The Theo Fleury Story, a play by Kirstie McLellan Day, is the story of how a five-foot-six Métis kid from Russell, Man., the product of an alcoholic father and a prescription-pill-addicted mother, became a National Hockey League star, all while battling addiction, depression, Crohn's disease and sexual abuse, not to mention much bigger players on the ice.

"It's not a play about hockey, and it's not a play about sexual abuse. It's a play about redemption, it's a play about survival, it's a play about rebirth," said Shaun Smyth, who plays Fleury in Playing with Fire.

Fleury was sexually abused by his junior coach Graham James.

"He came through all that stuff and he came through on the other side and he's helping people now. It's a real hero's journey, what he's been through, and that's universal. Everyone can relate to that."

A one-man show, Playing with Fire sees Smyth perform on skates in an onstage rink complete with nets and boards. The surface under his blades isn't ice but EZ Glide synthetic ice, which acts like the real thing when sprayed with a special lubricant.

Smyth said skating, shooting pucks and crashing into boards onstage gives the play a real "in-your-face energy" — appropriate considering Fleury's penchant for getting under the skin of opposing players. In fact, Fleury got in Smyth's face — in the best possible way.

"He came to see it in Edmonton and he came into my dressing room and gave me a huge hug," said Smyth, who grew up in Calgary, where Fleury spent the bulk of his career with the Flames.

"It was like, 'Holy shit! This is so wild how life unfolds. I watched you win a Stanley Cup, now you're coming to me and giving me a hug.' It was really a beautiful moment."

Service

Playing with Fire: The Theo Fleury Story opens at Prairie Theatre Exchange on Thursday at 8 p.m. The play runs at PTE until March 15. Tickets are $25 to $49 and are available at the PTE box office, www.pte.mb.ca or by calling 204-942-5483.

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Manitoba. Tire recycling fee deflated by 25 cents

Tire Stewardship Manitoba (TSM) is knocking 25 cents off the eco-fee for recycling that it tacks on to the price of new small tires — including passenger, light truck, motorcycle and ATV tires — sold in Manitoba.

After the math is done, that amounts to a savings of $1 on a set of four new tires.

"TSM's main goal is to provide Manitobans with a comprehensive, sustainable, effective and efficient tire-recycling program," said executive director Brett Eckstein in a release.

"Reducing the eco-fee by 25 cents on new tires in these categories more accurately reflects provincewide collection and recycling costs."

Eckstein said the decision to let a little air out of the fee is the result of TSM being able to meet its financial targets and manage all the tires that come in for recycling.

"Our sound approach has allowed us to generate sufficient revenue to cover the entire costs of the program, allowing our industry-appointed board to lower the rates," he said in the release.

Need to replace a tire? It'll be 25 cents cheaper as of April 1. ISTOCK

"Lowering rates when conditions warrant is in keeping with the industry's efforts to operate the tire-recycling program to the highest of standards."

The change means the provincially mandated tire-recycling program's eco-fee drops from $4 to $3.75 on all tires sold with a retail value over $30 as of April 1. METRO

City council rallies against bullying

In a rare show of complete agreement, the members of Winnipeg City Council showed their support for Pink Shirt Day by each wearing articles of pink clothing. The day draws awareness to the dangers of bullying. MAYOR'S OFFICE/HANDOUT

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Singles night won't be doubled, Safeway says

Singles Night at Safeway co-founder Lucas Andrich. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

They're going along with it this time, but Safeway Canada says not to expect Singles Night at Safeway to become a weekly phenomenon at their Osborne Village location.

The national grocer has agreed to provide a host and prizes for the event originally planned without their knowledge by Winnipeggers Lucas Aldrich and Alonso Morales, but a spokesman told Metro it would be a one-time only event.

"It's an event that is unique, but not one that we'd hope to repeat, necessarily," said Safeway's director of public affairs, John Graham. "We're embracing the fact that it is occurring and we look forward to welcoming hundreds of people on March 3."

So far more than 1,060 people have said they'll be attending the giant mixer for single shoppers next Tuesday night, and Graham said the store has prepared for the rush by bringing in extra baskets from other Safeway locations and extra rolls of bags.

Quoted

"It's an event that is unique, but not one that we'd hope to repeat, necessarily."

John Graham, Safeway director of public affairs, on the Singles Night at Safeway event

He said Safeway is not worried the singles will put them over their occupancy limit.

"It's a 50,000-foot store, so it's a large space," said Graham. "I would expect that with a situation like this there'd be a lot of rotation where people will come in for a half hour or an hour and then move onto something else."

Along with a desire for love, single shoppers are asked to bring a non-perishable food donation for Winnipeg Harvest to the event, which runs 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Merger could create largest credit union in Manitoba

Two of Manitoba's credit unions are about to become larger.

Assiniboine Credit Union and Access Credit Union have proposed a merger that, if successful, would make it the largest credit union in the province by assets, branches and members — and the sixth largest in Canada, they say.

Credit-union members will be asked to vote on the merger on April 22. The merger would come into effect on Oct. 1, along with a name change — to Access Credit Union.

"There were three options — Access, Assiniboine or a new name entirely," said the credit unions in a press release. "The board and CEOs unanimously agreed on Access Credit Union with the Assiniboine colour palette and asterisk in the new logo. The name Access is in keeping with the plan to provide better access and services to communities, members and employees."

If successful, Access Credit Union would have a combined 38 branches and more than 154,000 members in Winnipeg, Gillam, Thompson, Emerson, Manitou and Sprague, as well as other towns in southern Manitoba.

METRO

Alyx Delaloye and her "Chemo by Day, Jets by Night" poster was shown on the Jumbotron during a game between the Jets and the Dallas Stars on Tuesday in Winnipeg. Both teams gave a stick tap salute as the crowd cheered and gave a standing ovation. TREVOR HAGAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Girl battling cancer has 'awesome' night

Alyx Delaloye. Seven-year-old with leukemia gets stick taps from players, standing ovation at Jets game

SHANE GIBSON
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A Tuesday that started with another round of chemotherapy for a seven-year-old Neepawa girl couldn't have ended better for her and her family.

Alyx Delaloye has been coming to Winnipeg weekly for what's expected to be more than two years of treatment since being diagnosed with leukemia in July.

This week's trip was already looking brighter after the Winnipeg Jets invited the family to watch Tuesday's game against the Dallas Stars following Alyx's appointments — but the day got even better when Alyx got on the Jumbotron.

"We knew everyone was cheering for Alyx, but we didn't know she got a standing ovation and we didn't know the teams were clapping and banging their sticks on the ice because we were busy watching the Jumbotron," laughed Alyx's mom Jody of the experience, which has spread like wildfire on social media. "We were super excited just to be going to the game in the first place, and then this happened."

Alyx, who's been home sick from school for over two months, really wanted to get on the Jumbotron. She came to her first Jets game prepared with a sign that read, "Chemo by Day, Jets by Night," which she proudly held up with a big smile while the arena erupted.

In all, Alyx, her brother Hayden, 9, Jody and her dad Reg made the Jumbotron four times during the game, and the appearances made Alyx a lot of friends, according to her mom.

"Everywhere we went with Alyx, everyone was giving her high fives and fist bumps," she said. "It was crazy; the night was awesome."

After making the rounds on Winnipeg media Wednesday, Ace Burpee from Virgin 103 told Metro the station is having a special show on Friday — people can call in and request any song they'd like — so long as they donate $103 to the family.

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Defining age of youth proves challenging

Just a number? 'Youth seems to be extending infinitely as kids move back into their parents' homes and become dependent again,' says education professor

Canadian Heritage devoted a two-page briefing note to the existential question of how to define youth and concluded it was not so much a specific age range as an ever-evolving stage of life.

"Traditionally, youth might be considered adults upon reaching the age of majority.... However, academic literature indicates that youth transitions have now been extended among youth worldwide. Most youth are not becoming independent adults until their mid-20s or even early 30s," said the Sept. 15 memo prepared for the deputy minister of Canadian Heritage and released through an Access to Information request.

Joel Westheimer, a professor of education at the University of Ottawa, said youth has always been tough to define, even more so in the age of so-called boomerang kids.

"It has to do with where someone is in their education, where they are in their financial independence, their social independence and all of that," Westheimer said Wednesday.

"Youth seems to be extending infinitely as kids move back into their parents' homes and become dependent again.... People are delaying launching their regularly scheduled life for longer and longer, but that unfortunately is coupled with a trend in our culture to undervalue youth and have low expectations of youth contributions," Westheimer said.

The briefing note also talks about how the changing job market, as so-called millennials know all too well, means internships remain relevant well past the undergraduate years.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Government programs

The note lists a number of government-funded programs geared to youth that define the age group in vastly different ways.

- Canadian Heritage has a program called Youth Exchanges Canada, which helps participants travel to different provinces, for youth between the ages of 12 and 17.
- The Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development, meanwhile, offers work experience through the International Experience Canada program for youth 18 to 35 years old.

Plant a milkweed for monarchs

A monarch butterfly spreads its wings as it feeds on the flowers of a butterfly bush in Omaha, Neb. A concerted national effort to plant the unloved milkweed is needed to reverse a precipitous decline in the monarch butterfly population, conservationists say. They're hoping the federal government will step up with money and moral suasion to aid in an effort they say needs to include power-line, road and rail agencies. Estimates are that the migratory monarchs have declined by 90 per cent across North America over the past two decades, in part because of the eradication of milkweed, the only food plant the butterflies use as caterpillars. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Eastern Europe

Canada considers joining U.S.-led military training mission in Ukraine

The Harper cabinet is actively and seriously considering whether Canada should join the U.S. and Britain in a military training mission to shore up embattled Ukrainian troops, Defence Minister Jason Kenney said Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

EBay

Bids for Rob Ford's tie reach $400

Rob Ford has more items on eBay, including what appears to be the tie he wore on Nov. 5, 2013, when he admitted to smoking crack cocaine. In the description, the former Toronto mayor says the tie is the "only one of these in existence" and features logos from NFL teams past and present. By Wednesday evening, the tie had been bid up to about $400. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Federal election

Conservatives considering five televised debates with PM candidates

Conservatives are quietly considering a proposal to hold up to five regional televised debates in the upcoming federal election to contrast Prime Minister Stephen Harper's experience with rookie Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau.

With Canadians going to the polls on or before Oct. 19, sources say some Tory strategists are actively discussing the pros and cons of Harper debating Trudeau and NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair more than in past campaigns.

Traditionally, the party leaders meet twice during a federal election — once in English and once in French.

But hoping to exploit Trudeau's shoot-from-the-lip style, some Conservative insiders believe Harper could benefit from additional debates.

"I believe the more Canadians see the prime minister on the same stage as Justin Trudeau, the better it is for us," said one Tory strategist, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"Would the Liberals agree to it? I highly doubt it," the Conservative said, pointing to Trudeau's gaffes.

Mulcair, who has won kudos for his pointed grilling of Harper in the Commons, said Wednesday he's a "big fan" of debates and would embrace more such encounters in the coming campaign.

The NDP leader has already agreed to participate in an election debate on women's issues — the last one dedicated to that topic was in 1984 — and would also like to see one on the environment.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Travel Manitoba films

An uncanny resemblance?

A Google satellite image of the Newmarket Health Centre, a long-term care facility, is going viral with some publications in the United Kingdom and adult magazine Playboy, suggesting it "resembles a man with a dangling penis." In the picture, the building looks like a man with his legs spread and his genitals exposed for the world to see. Media outlets and readers on social media sites have been giggling over the naughty picture since the images came to light. The Region of York, which owns the building, was unable to track down the name of the clever architect who came up with the x-rated design in 1951. PHOTO: GOOGLE MAPS; TEXT: TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

'Challenging' talks expected at roundtable

Ottawa. Discussions will include Aboriginal and government representatives, as well as families of missing, murdered women

Getting Canada's Aboriginal Peoples, the provinces and territories and the federal government to gather together in the same room is no small feat.

But familiar sticking points are sure to return during this week's roundtable meeting on the issue of murdered and missing aboriginal women — particularly when it comes to deciding who will pay for and administer the parts of a plan to end the violence.

That could result in some "challenging discussions" among the groups when they gather Friday in the ballroom of a downtown Ottawa hotel, Assembly of First Nations national chief Perry Bellegarde said Wednesday.

"It'll be the jurisdictional piece — who's paying from the feds and the provinces, who's responsible, you know, in terms of financial investments, that's going to be an issue and ongoing, where the resources are coming from," Bellegarde said in an interview.

Both Bellegarde and Northwest Territories Premier Bob McLeod, who is chairing the meeting, say most of the details of the plan have already been worked out and Friday's meeting will mostly be about putting on the finishing touches.

But there are still big question marks — including who pays for what.

The roundtable will bring together families of missing and murdered aboriginal women and girls, groups representing First Nations, Inuit and Metis, and representatives of the provinces, territories and the federal government.

Four premiers — McLeod, Ontario's Kathleen Wynne, Greg Selinger of Manitoba and Yukon's Darrell Pasloski — are scheduled to attend. The Conservative government, meanwhile, has tapped Aboriginal Affairs Minister Bernard Valcourt and Status of Women Minister Kellie Leitch to take part.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Three arrested for plot to join ISIL in Syria

U.S. Roughly 20 people charged in past year with planning to travel to Middle East to fight alongside militants

Three men were arrested Wednesday on charges of plotting to travel to Syria to join ISIL and wage war against the U.S., and federal officials said one of them spoke of shooting President Barack Obama or planting a bomb on Coney Island.

Akhror Saidakhmetov was arrested at Kennedy Airport, where he was attempting to board a flight to Istanbul, authorities said. Abdurasul Hasanovich Juraboev had a ticket to travel to Istanbul next month and was arrested in Brooklyn, federal prosecutors said. Abror Habibov, 30, accused of helping fund Saidakhmetov's efforts, was arrested in Florida.

They are charged with attempt and conspiracy to provide material support to a terrorist organization. If convicted, each faces a maximum of 15 years in prison.

"This is real," said William Bratton, commissioner of the New York Police Department. "This is the concern about the lone wolf, inspired to act without ever going to the Mideast."

The Justice Department has charged roughly 20 people in the past year with planning to travel to the Middle East to fight alongside militants like ISIL. Federal officials have been concerned about Americans going overseas to train with these groups and returning with plots to carry out attacks at home. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Northeastern Syria

Attacks

ISIL militants have moved a large group of Christians they abducted to one of their strongholds as fighting raged on Wednesday between the extremists and Kurdish and Christian militiamen for control of a chain of villages along a strategic river in northeastern Syria, activists and state-run media said.

In pre-dawn attacks, the ISIL on Monday attacked communities nestled along the river, seizing at least 70 people, including many women and children. Thousands of others fled to safer areas.

Polanski appears at extradition hearing

Filmmaker Roman Polanski, second from right, with his lawyers, arrives at the regional court in his childhood city of Krakow, Poland, Wednesday. Polanski appeared for a hearing concerning a U.S. request for his extradition related to charges of sex with a minor — a case that has haunted him since 1977. Judge Dariusz Mazur took almost nine hours questioning Polanski and his Polish attorneys. He was not expected to make a ruling on Wednesday and scheduled another hearing, buying time to study documents that arrived this week from Switzerland, which in 2010 refused to extradite Polanski. ALIK KEPLICZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISIL

Egyptians flee Libya by thousands

An Egyptian border official says some 20,000 Egyptians have fled Libya since the release of a grisly beheading video by Islamic State militants. The video, showing the beheading of 21 Egyptian Christians, prompted Cairo to launch retaliatory airstrikes.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Afghanistan

Avalanches bury homes, kill scores

Avalanches caused by a heavy winter snow killed at least 124 people in northeastern Afghanistan, an emergency official said Wednesday, as rescuers clawed through debris with their hands to save those buried beneath.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chris Kyle killing

Jurors reject insanity defence

Jurors who rejected an insanity defence and convicted former Marine Eddie Ray Routh in the deaths of famed "American Sniper" author Chris Kyle and his friend said Wednesday the man's past behaviour undermined his argument that he couldn't tell right from wrong. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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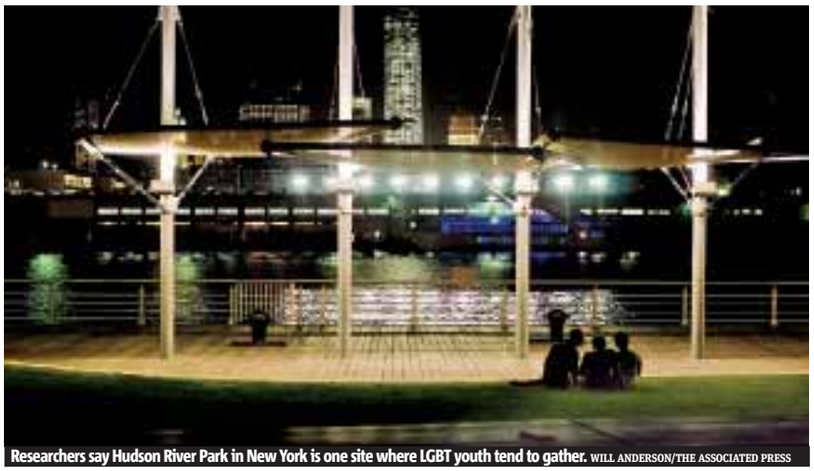
Study details lives of young LGBT sex workers

N.Y.C. Study interviews youth who cope with poverty by engaging in 'survival sex'



Researchers say Hudson River Park in New York is one site where LGBT youth tend to gather. WILL ANDERSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A unique federally funded study offers a detailed look at the lives of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth in New York City who engage in sex work.

In extensive interviews conducted over three years by the Urban Institute, 283 young people spoke about experiencing family rejection, establishing support networks with groups of their peers and learning how to subsist on earnings from sexual encounters. Many said there were positive aspects to their lives, but a large majority expressed a yearning to get out of the sex business.

"They don't see themselves as victims ... but it's not empowering for them to be doing this," said Meredith Dank, the report's lead author. "These are kids in very desperate situations who will do what they need to do to be able to survive."

The U.S. study, funded by the Justice Department's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, focused on youth between 15 and 21, although a handful of participants were older. Of the respondents, 47 per cent identified as male, 36 per cent as female and 16 per cent as transgender. About 90 per cent were black, Latino or multiracial, and nearly 60 per cent said they lived either in a shelter or on the street, often after being kicked out of their homes or aging out of foster care.

One gay 19-year-old told an interviewer how his mother had forced him to leave home.

"She didn't want me being gay. She wanted grandchildren. She didn't like my lifestyle," he said. "She still loved me but she just didn't want me being there."

On average, the youths saw three to six customers each day or night — 11 to 18 a week — during periods when they were engaging in sexual transactions, according to the study. The prices that they reported charging per encounter ranged from about $90 to $230, and income per day generally ranged from about $355 to $735.

About 90 per cent of the youths spoke of things they disliked about engaging in the sex trade — saying their work made them feel frustrated, dirty or endangered. Only seven per cent of respondents said they had no desire to stop engaging in the activity.

However, more than 80 per cent said there were positive aspects — notably helping meet their basic needs and in some cases fostering a sense of community.

The report offered several recommendations for steps that might encourage such young people to disengage from the sex trade, including new programs that would offer safe housing, appropriate health care and a pathway to job opportunities. Any such services would be most effective if designed with the particular needs of LGBT youth in mind, the report said.

The Urban Institute, a nonpartisan public-policy think-tank based in Washington, D.C., did not attempt its own calculations of the overall number of LGBT youth engaged in the New York City's commercial sex market. Its report cited earlier studies, estimating the number at between 2,500 and 4,000 young people of all sexual orientations. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Details

Among the report's main findings:

- Many of the youths reported frustrating experiences with social-services systems and providers, which often failed to help them find safe housing and adequate health care.
- Many participants have large peer networks, including other youth who engage in the sex business and help them.
- Complaints of violence and abuse were commonplace, inflicted by relatives, clients, peers, law-enforcement officers and others. But many youths displayed resilience.

Writers see e-ink on the wall

As printed books trend downward and e-books take their place, Metro looks at how contemporary authors get paid — or not

LUKE SIMCOE
Metro in Toronto

Last week, Canada's biggest authors penned a strongly worded letter to the country's biggest library. Writers such as Margaret Atwood and Vincent Lam were rattling pens in protest of a policy that allowed the Toronto Public Library to purchase used copies of best-selling titles from the public.

The library claimed the program was needed to reduce waiting lists for popular books, but to the 31 authors who signed the letter, it was another blow to a publishing industry already reeling from "great technological and social change."

"Were the program expanded, we believe it would do harm to writers and publishers depending upon slim and diminishing revenues of their own," the letter read.

Strong words, but are they true? In an age of e-books, Amazon and self-publishing success stories, Metro opens the book on how contemporary writers and publishers are — or aren't — getting paid.

ISTOCK

Public lending rights

$9.7M
The amount paid out to Canadian authors in 2014 through the Public Lending Rights Commission.

Believe it or not, authors in Canada are compensated for having their books in libraries. In addition to the royalties they receive when a library buys their book, they also receive an annual payment from the Public Lending Rights Commission.

The system checks a library's catalogue and notes the presence of a book. Currently, authors get paid the same whether there's one copy or 100 on the shelves, but those who administer the program are looking to change that.

Copyright

Authors are also paid when their works are copied or used by governments, educational institutions or businesses. In Canada, most of this money is collected and distributed by a group known as Access Copyright.

However, John Degen, director of the Writers' Union of Canada, said recent changes to the Copyright Act, such as granting schools greater exemptions, have negatively affected how much money is flowing to authors. Between 2013 and 2014, Access Copyright payments went down nearly 30 per cent, he said. "We've watched a steady decline in the annual average earnings for authors," Degen said. "And I'm sure there are authors in Canada that have just given up because they can't earn a living."

Advances and royalties

The book-publishing industry still functions much as it did before the arrival of the Internet.

Once an author inks a deal with a publisher, he or she is given a cash advance — the more popular a book is expected to be, the larger the advance — and hopes to collect royalties from sales.

According to John Degen (pictured below), director of the Writers' Union of Canada, royalties are set at between 10 and 15 per cent of a book's retail price. Only a select few in Canada earn a living from royalties, Degen said, with most "cobbling together income" from other writing gigs and appearances.

"The reality is that most books don't earn out their advance," he said, noting advances have gotten smaller as publishers become more risk-averse.

"The industry has survived by consolidating and tightening up their contracts," he said. "You need a serious track record of blockbuster sales to get an advance that will give you a living."

$10,000
Average annual earnings from writing made by Canadian authors, according to the Writers' Union of Canada.

Amazon

Amazon accounted for 40 per cent of global book sales in 2014, according to Publishers Weekly.

Degen said some authors see the online retailer's low prices as a race to the bottom, while others are embracing the site as a platform for self-publishing.

"Publishers used to be the gatekeepers and the authors were the supplicants, saying, 'Please publish my book,'" he said. "But now, you can avoid the publishing industry altogether."

Authors who retain their digital rights can sell e-books directly through Amazon and get royalties as high as 75 per cent. Degen believes that is forcing publishers to take better care of their writers.

"We look after our writers as best we can," said House of Anansi's Matt Williams. "It's about more than printing their books. We look after publicity tours and exploit other rights for film as best we can."

E-books

In 2012, the Ontario Media Development Corporation estimated 15 per cent of book sales in Canada were in digital formats, a number expected to at least double by 2018.

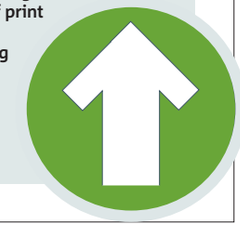
House of Anansi vice-president Matt Williams says electronic books cost his firm about 20 per cent less to make than printed books. The result has been higher profits for publishers and higher royalties for authors.

E-book royalties start around 25 per cent, but John Degen, director of the Writers' Union of Canada, says his organization is pushing for more from publishers.

"We've done our own math and we don't see the justification for only 25 per cent," he said. "The cost of making the product is just so much lower."

The future

The Ontario Media Development Corporation says the Canadian publishing industry is still growing at around 1.5 per cent per year. Sales of print books are trending downward, but those losses are offset by the growing e-book market. "The industry isn't going anywhere," said House of Anansi vice-president Matt Williams. "It's contracting in some areas, but it's sure as hell growing in others."



VOICES

SAVING FACE

In an effort to showcase diversity with their new emojis, Apple has upset a lot of people. Why does it seem like companies' efforts to be politically correct always backfire?

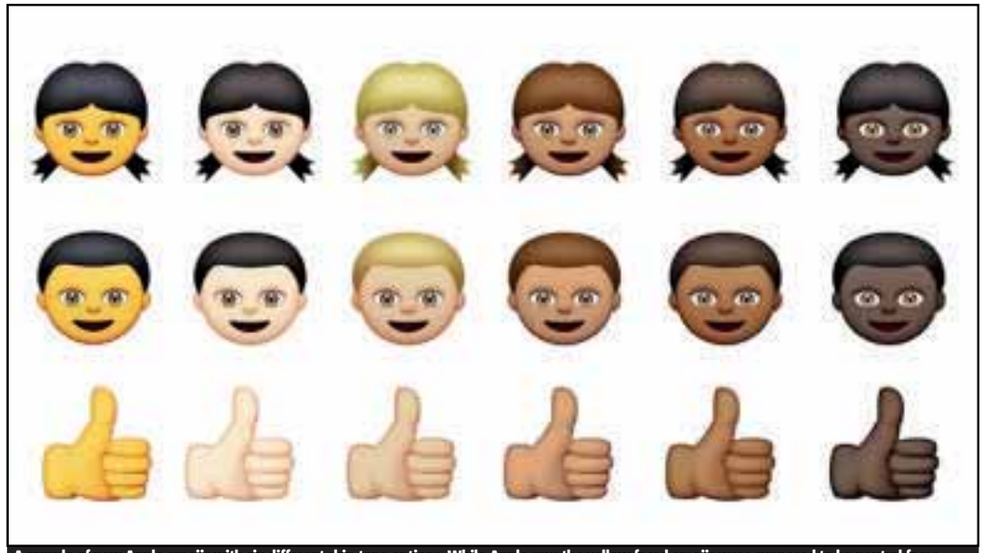
JUSTIN LEE
readers@metronews.ca

Apple unveiled this week a new set of emojis — featuring six different skin tones — coming with its latest update to iOS and OSX. At the end of the proverbial racial rainbow is, in fact, a pot of gold: a luminous yellow face. The move has upset Asian communities around the world, who are criticizing the inclusion of the yellow emoji on social media.

Surely Apple — whose U.S. workforce is 23 per cent Asian — must have seen this backlash coming, considering the long history of racist connotations in describing Asians as "yellow."

But regardless of their approach, the outcome — and outrage — would probably have been the same. Apple's good intentions to be more politically correct would have likely offended someone in the end anyway.

Apple claims the yellow-skinned emojis are not meant to portray Asians, but instead, all the faces are intended to be ethnically neutral — an extension of the smiley-face characters, I suppose. But wouldn't "ghost white" have been more appropriate, without running the risk of it being misconceived as representing an entire race?



A sample of new Apple emojis with six different skin-tone options. While Apple says the yellow-faced emojis were supposed to be neutral faces not depicting any specific race, they've upset many in the Asian community. SCREENGRAB

To their credit, I'm sure Apple was going for a cyber version of the racially harmonious It's a Small World Disney ride, minus the creepy animatronics. In other words, it was trying to play it safe while appealing to a need for a more inclusive representation of all races and ethnicities.

Just imagine the outrage if Apple had included stereotypical facial characteristics, costumes and accompanying props for each race. You know, like the It's a Small World Disney ride.

But maybe this whole thing brings up the larger issue of Western society's constant need to be politically correct, and how it can, in fact, worsen the situation.

This fear of offending others by attempting to be more inclusive of all ethnicities and races can often lead to mixed results.

For example, think about the last commercial you saw for a cellphone provider or fast-food restaurant. You know, the one where a group of 20-something faux-hipsters are really enjoying themselves? In every one of these advertisements, there will be — without fail — a carefully calculated, ethnically diverse representation of actors: two white men, two white women, one Asian woman and one black dude. It's not always this exact combination, but you get my point.

The end result feels forced, an obligatory nod to political correctness wherein advertisers can fly under the radar of ethnic activist groups by simply including a couple of visible minorities to round out a mostly all-Caucasian group.

Sometimes over-thinking, just like under-thinking, can lead to unintentionally racist results. And then you're forced to backtrack by saving (yellow) face. Have a nice day.

Justin Lee is a Toronto-based writer, DJ and documentary filmmaker who enjoys exploring music, arts and culture and social issues.

Great that Brown barred, but let's really give him the kiss-off

MELISSA DUNNE
readers@metronews.ca

It's not every day I feel like giving our immigration officials a high five.

But when news broke that singer Chris Brown was denied entry at our border earlier this week, I felt a surge of patriotic pride.

Our country essentially gave the middle finger to a man who infamously beat singer Rihanna's face to a pulp and yet still makes millions a year as an entertainer.

While the promoter of his concerts in Montreal and Toronto said in a statement the shows were cancelled due to "immigration issues," it likely had more to do with Brown's history of violence. Since he pleaded guilty to felony assault for beating up Rihanna in 2009, he has been embroiled in scandal after scandal.

Just last year after subsequent arrests, Brown was ordered to serve jail time for violating probation before being released and, again, put on probation. He's previously been refused entry into the U.K.

And yet while many claim to be sickened by his behaviour, legions have continued to dole out money to see him perform, and venues continue to host his shows. The stomach-churning photos of Rihanna's bruised visage have not stopped people from buying his albums and going to his concerts — or the music industry from handing him awards and accolades.

In a way, the industry condones his behaviour by continuing to support him. Which is why the border stymie seems like such a victory to those of us who continue to be disgusted by Brown.

He is not the only star to be given the cold shoulder by the True North.

Over the years, everyone from rapper Lil Wayne to actor Wes Bentley to domestic goddess Martha Stewart have been turned away due to their criminal records. Somehow boxer Mike Tyson, who has been convicted of assault and rape, controversially gained entry last year to perform his one-man show in Toronto.

Like Brown, grotesque behaviour did not stop the boxer from commanding large paycheques and crowds.

Despite the actions of Canadian border officials, Brown will continue to make money.

He ominously tweeted: "The good people of the Canadian government wouldn't allow me entry. I'll be back this summer and will hopefully see all my Canadian fans!"

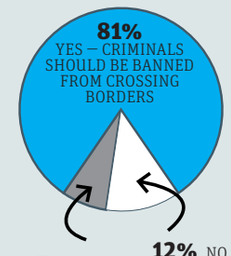
The 25-year-old will likely eventually be back here to perform, unless no one buys tickets to his concerts.

So, fellow Canucks, let's give the Kiss Kiss singer the ultimate kiss-off and stop buying what this awful man is selling.

Melissa Dunne is a freelance writer based in Toronto.

Poll:

SHOULD CHRIS BROWN HAVE BEEN STOPPED FROM ENTERING CANADA?



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Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Not doing her time

So remember when Lindsay Lohan's lawyer rushed in proof that she had completed her probation-mandated community service hours while in London? Yeah, about that. As it turns out, Lohan got a little, let's say, creative with what constitutes community service.

According to TMZ, her community service included performing in the West End in Speed-the-Plow, meeting fans afterward and letting kids follow her around. What a mensch. "On one day Lindsay got six hours' credit," prosecutor Terry White complains. "Two of the hours were for her matinee performance and another two were for her evening performance. The remaining two were for a meet-and-greet afterwards." Looks like her selfless giving could land her a probation violation.

Lindsay Lohan ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Is Jamie all done with the whips?

Fifty Shades of Grey is still busy making all of the money, but apparently no amount of success is enough to please star Jamie Dornan, who is reportedly mulling an early exit from the franchise before they can get to adapting the second and third book, according to Australia's NW magazine.

Dornan is said to be wrestling with an intense distaste for all things Grey, and isn't eager to shave off all his facial and chest hair once again and make with flogging Dakota Johnson, according to an anonymous source. "Jamie does not think his performance was bad. Instead he blames Dakota and says it wasn't possible to have chemistry with her," the source insists. "He says Dakota gave him nothing to work with." So I guess his solution is to return the favour?

Jamie Dornan certainly has chemistry with his wife, Amelia Warner.

Conan's got a date with Grindr

Never let it be said Conan O'Brien doesn't suffer for his fans' enjoyment. After successfully navigating Tinder with coach Dave Franco, O'Brien now turns to the gay side with Grindr, the "socializing" app favoured by men seeking men. Along for the ride to help him out is comedian Billy Eichner. Enjoy as O'Brien tries out life as a sugar daddy.

Liza Powel O'Brien and husband Conan O'Brien

What did Ben really say to J.Lo?

Apparently something we all missed at the Oscars was a run-in between exes Ben Affleck and Jennifer Lopez, both on hand to present awards. During a commercial break, Affleck apparently whispered something in Lopez's ear, earning him a playful sock in the arm from his Gigli co-star. And much like Bill Murray and Scarlett Johansson in Lost in Translation, we're burning with curiosity as to what he said. Since there's no way to really know, how about some baseless speculation? By all means:

- "I've seen Boy Next Door 17 times."
- "Once you go Affleck, you never go back-fleck."
- "Sometimes I accidentally call my wife by your name."
- "We still use Gigli as our safe word."

Ben Affleck and Jennifer Lopez

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Futuristic Canadian writer Margaret Atwood will try her hand at micro-storytelling during the third Twitter Fiction Festival. AFP FILE

Twit fic fest celebrates new forms of storytelling

Multimedia. Do you like very, very short stories? This festival of micro publishing may be right up your alley

Lemony Snicket, Margaret Atwood and Jackie Collins will all experiment with micro-publishing during the third Twitter Fiction Festival, which has been announced for May 11 to 15.

When Twitter hosted its first Fiction Festival in 2012, it had already been home to virtual storytelling experiments by authors such as Jennifer Egan and Teju Cole who had shared new work one tweet at a time. The festival puts that storytelling trend in the spotlight and last year featured authors such as Alexander McCall Smith, who offered up four short stories over the course of the festival.

Among other 2014 highlights, American comedians Jim Gaffigan and Michael Ian Black improvised a tale of a trip through Scotland, and Tom Mitchell led a choose-your-own-adventure-style story through London.

On board for 2015 is a roster of more than 20 featured authors, including Chuck Wendig, Beth Cato, Matthew Dunn, Sophie Jordan, Lauren Beukes and Jonathan Evison, with a collective expertise that extends into spy fiction, politics and graphic novels.

Join in

- Starting March 2, anyone can submit an idea for a chance to be a featured participant. Once the event starts, all can take part using the hashtag #TwitterFiction.

The event's website, twitterfictionfestival.com, offers suggestions of formats and tools to use to create your fiction, including generating collaborative fiction via crowdsourcing, launching several handles to tell a narrative through multiple viewpoints or using images and Vine for a multimedia experience. Last year saw Eric Smith create an 8-bit story with illustrator Juan Carlos Solon, while Ankur Thakkar told a love story using Bollywood screenshots.

Inspiration from some of last year's contributors can be found archived on the festival website. An Instant Story Generator provides an option for the less creatively inclined.

Follow developments and the festival itself via @twfictionfest and using the hashtag #TwitterFiction. AFP

New books. Ishiguro heads to post-Roman Britain

A decade after his most recent novel, the dystopian Never Let Me Go, the Japanese-born British author Kazuo Ishiguro is back with The Buried Giant, a tale of love and vengeance in a mythical, troubled Britain.

Ishiguro is the author of six previous novels, among which one of his best-known is 1989's The Remains of the Day, the source for the Merchant Ivory film of the same name. That book earned the author a Man Booker Prize, for which he's been nominated four times.

Never Let Me Go also became a film, having been adapted for Mark Romanek's 2010 movie starring Keira Knightley and Carey Mulligan.

Whether the author's latest effort will make its way to celluloid is unknown, but a few plot details have been revealed by his publisher and in interviews and reviews leading up to its March 3 release.

Publisher Random House described the book's setting as a time when the "Romans have long since departed and Britain is steadily declining into ruin." AFP

Author Kazuo Ishiguro AFP FILE

Ebooks

Pearson travellers to get free book, music downloads

Travellers flying out of Canada's largest airport will have access to a special parting gift: books and music available for free download.

While at Toronto's Pearson International Airport, people will be able to visit a dedicated website to download select ebook titles and individual songs. The content is being provided by HarperCollins Canada and Sony Music Canada.

Cory Beatty, marketing director at HarperCollins Canada, said six books will be available each month: ebook samplers which include excerpts of upcoming books, two classic titles and two best-selling releases.

The first run includes Giller Prize finalist The Betrayers by David Bezmozgis and Us by One Day author David Nicholls, and classic titles The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes and The Great Gatsby.

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ROBERTSON COLLEGE

Hanging with Cooper and Cohen

Lecture series. Two big TV personalities come together for a candid tour

After an initial phone call that still makes them cringe, the television odd couple of Andy Cohen and Anderson Cooper became good friends.

Both men are putting their easy camaraderie on display in a live lecture series this spring. The idea came from Cohen's mother and Cooper's agent, who watched in November when Cooper interviewed Cohen about his book onstage in New York.

The series, subtitled Deep Talk and Shallow Tales, starts March 21 in Boston, with later dates in Miami and Chicago and more if the initial run goes well.

Each has travelled career paths that aren't easily defined.

Cooper is best known as the sober, prematurely grey newscaster who travels around the world for CNN and contributes stories to 60 Minutes.

He's also tried a daytime talk show, hosted a reality show and teams with comic Kathy Griffin for a ribald New Year's Eve program every year.

Cohen hosts an alcohol-fuelled talk show on Bravo and dishes about the network's famed housewives. But he was a television executive at Bravo and elsewhere, and a producer at CBS News in the mid-1990s, when a mutual friend tried to set him up with Cooper on a blind date.

It got no further than a phone conversation.

"Somewhere during that phone call, we realized this was not meant to be," Cooper said.

"This was not going to work out at all."

Now they often go on trips with each other, and Cohen texts Cooper to tell him to keep his head down when CNN sends him on dangerous reporting trips. They don't hesitate to interrupt each other in conversation.

Each man is preparing surprises for his friend to be revealed onstage during the tour, booked into small theatres. They'll talk about their careers, planning to let the audiences dictate much of the agenda by asking questions.

"It gets a little dangerous, because we know where the bodies are buried," Cohen said.

"That's why this tour will be fun. It will be very uncensored, and it can go in a million directions."

Like with Griffin each New Year's Eve, the serious newsman part of Cooper betrays a little nervousness about his friend.

"I'm just happy to hear Anderson say all this," Cohen said.

"He knows what he's signed up for."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

From left, Anderson Cooper, Andy Cohen, Benjamin Maisani and Kathy Griffin. Cooper and Cohen are launching a lecture series subtitled Deep Talk and Shallow Tales. It kicks off March 21 in Boston. GETTY IMAGES

Gamers can now get Fast & Furious

Fast & Furious and Forza are hitching a ride together. The hugely successful movie franchise is teaming up with the critically acclaimed Forza racing series for a video game featuring cars and missions inspired by Universal Pictures' Fast & Furious films. "Forza Horizon 2 Presents Fast & Furious" will launch March 27 for Xbox One and Xbox 360. The stand-alone title will be available for free until April 10 to promote the April 3 release of Furious 7, the latest installment in the film series. After that date, the Fast & Furious-themed expansion will cost gamers $10. TEXT AND PHOTO: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TV

Jason Jones and Samantha Bee set to launch TBS show

The Daily Show couple Jason Jones and Samantha Bee are heading to TBS with a comedy series based on their harried family life. The Canadian husband-and-wife team wrote the pilot and serve as executive producers.

The series is inspired by their own getaways and is billed as "an honest and darkly comedic look at family."

The channel says it has ordered 10 episodes of the untitled series, which will star Jones as "unfiltered dad Nate."

Plans call for each season of the show to follow a different family adventure. Jones announced on Twitter that he'll be leaving his gig at The Daily Show to work on the series.

Production is slated to begin this summer, with an airdate set for later this year.

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BADGLEY MISCHKA FASHION SHOW IN NEW YORK. PHOTO: CHELSEA LAUREN / GETTY IMAGES

LESS IS MORE

The face of this season's fashion month is understated — with models from many must-see shows sporting natural, matte skin, eye colours in earthy tones and a soft, nude lip. Now it's time for you to rule your world's runway.

In recent New York and London fashion weeks, 'au naturel' was the order of the day.

For his Fall 2015 clothing line, Ralph Lauren served up a bevy of effortlessly sophisticated embellishments, tonal hues and rich textures.

The makeup was, in contrast, perfectly wholesome. Lauren's broad spectrum of earthy beauty was a force to be reckoned with — flawless, gleaming skin and untamed brows.

Badgley Mischka models also donned a pale lip that was a contrast to their cat-eye liner. In London this week Burberry unveiled several additions to its cosmetics range.

Models sported warm, matte skin, a sultry smokey eye inspired by natural earthy tones and an understated matte nude lip.

Here are some products to recreate the natural knockout look:

• Whatever your skin tone, it's time to invest in a new performance BB/CC cream like BareMinerals All-In-One BB, CC, Tinted Moisturizer Cream, released last month.

• Lancôme's cushion cream and Diorskin Nude Air serum offer other luxurious complexion-kind options.

• As Burberry girls Kate Moss and Cara Delevingne know, no makeup bag would be complete without Charlotte Tilbury's Magic Cream, originally formulated to help soothe supermodels' travel-weary skin.

• Inspired by the British luxury label's Patchwork, Pattern and Prints runway show on Monday, Makeup Artistic Consultant Wendy Rowe created Burberry's earthy runway beauty using new Eye Colour Cream shadows in Mink No.102 and Charcoal No.114.

AFP

BURBERRY'S BEAUTIFUL EARTHY MAKEUP PHOTO: AFP

BURBERRY KISSES IN NUDE, THE LIPSTICK BEHIND MODELS' UNDERSTATED POUT. PHOTO: AFP

Prefer a bolder look? Here's how to copy Kim Kardashian

It's no secret that Kim Kardashian loves to wear makeup.

The queen of contouring gave an interview to beauty blog Into the Gloss where she shared a laundry list of her favourite beauty products and tools.

She uses Kardashian Beauty Endless Summer Matte Bronzer in Cabana Bronze, and the Anastasia Beverly Hills Contour Kit for her nose and cheeks, she told the Gloss.

Kardashian is also known for her dramatic eyes: she goes to Anastasia Soare of Anastia to get her eyebrows done, and she uses Lancôme Définicils High Definition Mascara along with Kardashian brand false individual lashes.

The reality star also said she is crazy about rose-scented products.

Her By Terry Refreshing Cleansing Gel is rose-scented, and so are the Tracie Martin Shakti Resculpting Body Cream and Epicuren Bulgarian Rose Otto rose oil she likes to use.

As for Kardashian's beauty quirks, Baby North's mom owns an LED light therapy machine called Quasar MD Plus to treat the psoriasis on her legs.

She also claimed that she only washes her hair once every five days.

"We start out with a blowout on day one, then we go into a messier vibe the next day, and then we flat iron it and do a really sleek look on day three since that requires a little oil in the hair. Day four could be a slicked-back ponytail, and on the fifth day is when you wash it."

AFP/PHOTO: GETTY

UV rays continue damage in the dark

The damage caused by ultraviolet radiation takes place many hours after you spend time in the sun, even if it's dark out, according to researchers from Yale University who say this is an important discovery in skin protection.

Knowing this means that we could take measures to prevent the damage and the research team says this could lead to an "evening after" cream.

Such a cream, they say, would prevent DNA damage that occurs when UV rays activate two enzymes that send melanin haywire in a process called chemiexcitation. The study was published in the journal Science. AFP

Trends Report online

One of the trends to emerge from fashion weeks in New York and London is fringe. See how fab fringe detailing, like in this Ralph Lauren outfit, can look on everything from skirts and shoes to handbags and earrings.

• **Online.** metronews.ca/trends-report

• **Follow** Irene on Twitter @MetroIreneK and Instagram @kuanirene

• **Photo gallery.** Gucci kicked off Milan Fashion Week with florals and pleats. Check it out at metronews.ca/scene.

Copper stirs up black magic in the kitchen

Glossy cabinets reflect light and help open up small spaces. Grey Abstrakt Kitchen Cabinets, Ikea.ca

Ask a designer. Bright ideas for a reader's tiny kitchen dilemma

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

I desperately need to renovate my small U-shaped condo kitchen this spring. Will shiny surfaces like mirror, stainless and glass help make it appear larger? I am not a fan of stainless steel appliances and am wondering what would look best. — Mark H., Edmonton

The trick to making a small kitchen look larger is to use consistent colours and tones throughout: either all light, all medium, or all dark. Look for countertops with a glossy finish that will reflect light. Also consider a stone-like surface that features reflective qualities in its design. In a tiny kitchen, use the same product for the backsplash to reduce the variety of finishes needed. This will make the small space appear seamless and less visually choppy.

Appliances can be black, if choosing a darker-looking kitchen, or white if you're going all light. Whichever appliances you choose, match your cupboard doors and floor tiles in similar tones, either black, grey or white.

Again, all surfaces should be shiny or glossy to reflect and bounce light around in a tiny space.

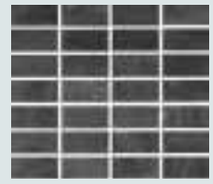
Copper-plated faucets and lighting fixtures will add an on-trend metallic colour to the space. Wall paint should match the copper faucets and help to warm up the space.

Coppertone your walls to get rid of boring neutrals. Caramel Corn 2160, BenjaminMoore.ca

Countertops and backsplash: Deep grey and metallic sheen create chic counters and backsplashes with the durability of engineered quartz. Silestone Chrome counters, from $200 per linear foot, Silestone.com

Mixing copper with grey helps to warm up a small space. Danze Opulence Single Handle Pull Down Faucet, $350, Wayfair.com

Black is back! 19 cubic-foot Bottom Mount Black Fridge, $1050, Whirlpool.ca



Dark grey flooring will blend nicely into deep grey cabinets. Use a dark grey grout to reduce the lines between the tiles. Elaine Cityscape Carbon Glazed Porcelain Tile, $16.40/sq. ft., HomeDepot.ca

metro METRO CUSTOM PUBLISHING *METRO SPACES*

CONTRIBUTED

Bühler products stand test of time

Bühler Furniture has been manufacturing finely crafted furniture in the highest grade solid woods and veneers for more than 20 years.

The company makes all its products in Manitoba in a state-of-the-art, 150,000-square-foot facility, producing more than 100 items for such furniture categories as bedroom, fireplace, curio, entertainment, and occasional.

A recipient of the industry's top award — The Pinnacle — Bühler has always crafted its products to stand the test of time. Its furniture meets the highest North American standards of quality, safety and reliability, something the company considers a personal guarantee to each of its customers.

The company also has strong relationships with various local retailers.

Its outlet store at 700 King Edward St. — open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. — offers slightly damaged, prototype pieces and older stock at factory-direct or below-wholesale prices.

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Some nights call for morning faves

Recipe. Expand your breakfast-for-dinner menu with a pie filled with morning staples like sausage and bacon

This recipe for Breakfast Pie serves six. STUART WEST

1. Take pastry out of ridge an hour before you need it, otherwise it is difficult to work with and will crack when unrolled.

2. In a large saucepan, gently fry the chopped onions until they are browned. Drain the beans and give them a quick rinse. You want some of the sauce to stick to them, but not too much, otherwise your pie may end up with a 'soggy bottom.' Add to the onions with a splash of Worcestershire sauce and heat through.

3. In a separate pan, fry the bacon and sausages (don't use oil, as they should be fatty enough) until they are browned. Chop the bacon into small pieces and slice the sausages. (Don't forget, this can all be done the night before, and it is also a good way of using up leftovers.) Stir the cooked meat into the bean mixture and season — go easy on the salt as the meat will be salty enough. Crumble in the black pudding.

4. Put cake tin on one of the pastry sheets and cut around with a knife. This is your pie lid. Grease cake tin, line base with baking paper, and then place the remaining pastry sheet inside. Gently push it down, so it is nice and snug around the bottom and the edges. It won't fit perfectly, but if you trim some of the overhang off you can add it where needed. Smooth out any joins with your fingers. It may look like a patchwork quilt, but don't worry, it will still taste delicious. Pour the filling into the pastry case. Sprinkle on the grated cheese. Place the pie lid on top, and pinch to the sides of the pastry case. Beat the egg and brush the lid with it. Either bake straightaway or put in fridge.

5. Preheat the oven to 180 C (350 F; gas mark 4). Bake for 50 minutes. If you made it the night before, then try to remember to take it out of the fridge an hour before cooking. If you don't, you will need to up the cooking time slightly.

6. When cooked, remove from the oven and let it stand for 10 minutes, then take the pie in its tin to the table. Balance it on a tin of baked beans and lower the cake tin. People should start to applaud at this point. Transfer to a plate and cut into wedges. It is nice with eggs on the side. **BOTH RECIPES FROM THE CRUMBS FAMILY COOKBOOK BY CLAIRE AND LUCY MCDONALD. CICO BOOKS, $25.95; RYLANDPETERS.COM**

Cookbook of the Week

Get back to family

Got a bunch of hungry kids to feed after school? Need inspiration for Sunday dinner? Reach for The Crumbs Family Cookbook. Written by Claire and Lucy McDonald, it contains 150 recipes that range from comfort food to one-pot dishes even the fussiest of eaters will love. Recipes include Pea and Feta Salad, Very Simple Beef Stew and Tortilla Tower. **METRO**

Ingredients

- 2 sheets all-butter shortcrust pastry (215 g/7 1/2 oz each sheet)
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 x 400 g (14 oz) tin of baked beans
- Splash of Worcestershire sauce
- 6 good-quality sausages
- 6 rashers/slices of streaky bacon
- 200 g (7 oz) black pudding/blood sausage
- 200 g (21/4 cups) grated Cheddar
- 1 egg
- 20 cm (8 inch) loose-bottomed cake tin

This recipe serves four greedy people with plenty of leftovers. STUART WEST

Dinner. Gnocchi Bake

"This is the ultimate midweek supper. It is cheap, filling, quick and delicious.

"I make it every few weeks using up any vegetables that are wilting/stagnating in my fridge," writes Lucy McDonald in the book The Crumbs Family Cookbook.

1. Cook the gnocchi in a pan of boiling water as per the packet instructions. They are ready when they all bob to the top of the pan.

2. Drain and put back in the saucepan (not over the heat) and stir in the passata, sweetcorn and chard. Season. Pour into a 20 x 30cm (8 x 12 inches) baking dish and sprinkle the mozzarella and bread crumbs over the top.

Ingredients

- 700 g (25 oz) gnocchi
- 680 g (23/4 cups) passata/tomato sauce
- Handful of sweetcorn/corn kernels
- Handful of Swiss chard
- 200g (2 cups) shredded mozzarella cheese (or any other)
- Handful of bread crumbs

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Parks Canada Heritage Gourmet (iPhone/iPad/Android; free)

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Flexible study options at Thompson Rivers U

MBA can be taken online on a part-time basis

Many people think that studying for an MBA means they have to spend long days at a university campus in classes.

Not at Thompson Rivers University.

"As one of the younger universities in Canada, we are not locked into tradition and can offer unparalleled flexibility in the Canadian MBA market," according to Victoria Martin, director of the MBA program.

While students can take their MBA program at the Thompson Rivers' campus in Kamloops, B.C., many choose to take it online as a distance education student.

"It's the same program, courses and curriculum. The only difference is where you physically do the course," says Martin.

Students needing the flexibility to be able to balance their study with work and family and other commitments choose to do the program online — and from where they live. "They're generally mature students balancing family commitments and needing to maintain full-time employment."

The part-time, off-campus student has usually been in the workforce for several years. "They're looking for a promotion, they're leveling out in their career and need to do something to take it further, or they're looking for a new job."

While Thompson Rivers' MBA program takes between 12 to 20 months of full-time study, most students that choose the online study option do it on a part-time basis. In that case, it has to be completed within five years, says Martin.

"All of our students are prepared to make good, strategic decisions for their organizations. We're giving them the skills to step into leadership roles, to see the big picture and to understand the global business environment as well."

Only final exams are done in person. "We find a local testing centre in Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, or Vancouver, and set that all up for them."

For more information, visit tru.ca/mba.

INTERACTIVE HIGHLIGHTS

"We've made the MBA program as interactive as possible," explains Martin. For distance students, instructors use lecture-capture software to record and upload their lectures. Students can watch lectures on their own schedules.

There are also required, online discussion groups, and students work in virtual teams to complete assignments and projects.

CONTRIBUTED

MBA

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NHL

Penguins acquire Winnik from Leafs

The Toronto Maple Leafs' sell-off continued Wednesday as forward Daniel Winnik was traded to the Pittsburgh Penguins for centre Zach Sill and two draft picks.

Winnik was the Maple Leafs' top trade candidate left after the team dealt Cody Franson and Mike Santorelli to Nashville on Feb. 15.

Sill is a 26-year-old with 62 games of NHL experience. The Leafs also received a second-round pick in 2016 and a fourth-round pick in this year's draft.

In 55 games, Winnik has seven goals and 18 assists but he has been one of Toronto's best players over the past two months. "His play put him in a position where he was wanted and put us in a position to get some quality assets back," general manager Dave Nonis said on a conference call. THE CANADIAN PRESS

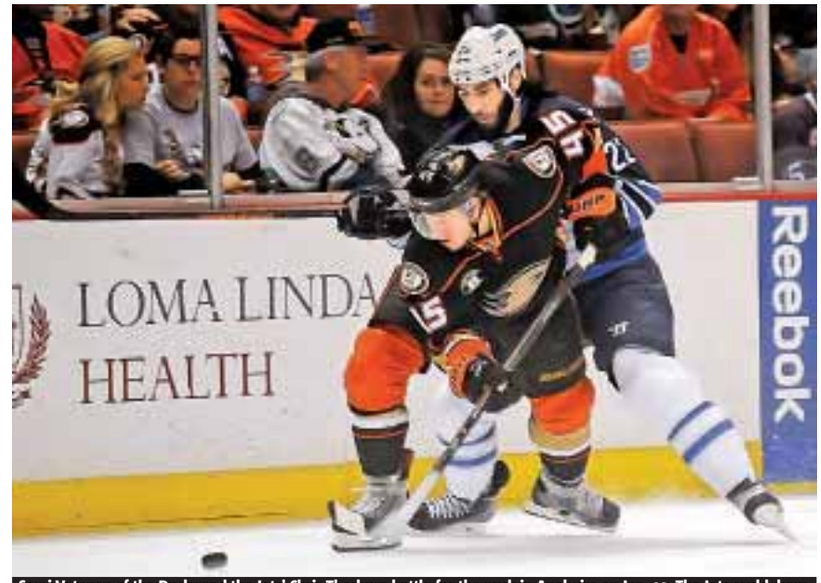
Soccer

"A hundred days, in one sense it can't come sooner. But in another sense it's great because that means 100 days more hard work we get to put in to being the best version of ourselves."

Veteran Canada goalkeeper Karina LeBlanc who is buzzing with 100 days left till the Women's World Cup as of today. The event kicks off on June 6 when Canada takes on China in Edmonton. The first game hosted in Winnipeg will be Sweden-Nigeria on June 8.

Jets still steps away from top-tier status

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Ronnie Shuker
winnipeg@metronews.ca



Sami Vatanen of the Ducks and the Jets' Chris Thorburn battle for the puck in Anaheim on Jan. 11. The Jets could draw the Ducks — who they are 0-1-2 against this season — in the first round of the playoffs. JONATHAN MOORE/GETTY IMAGES

As the NHL's March 2 trade deadline approaches, don't expect GM Kevin Cheveldayoff to make any more moves after acquiring Jiri Tlusty from the Carolina Hurricanes. There is no sense mortgaging any part of the Jets' blindingly bright future to improve their playoff odds, when they're already looking very good.

Winnipeg fans will have to be happy with just getting into the playoffs, because the team isn't ready to roll with the big boys when the real hockey begins.

The Jets have maintained their middling position in the NHL standings by doing exactly what they should do: beat the teams below them. What they can't do, however, is beat the teams above them any more than every so often (Chicago Blackhawks notwithstanding).

After Tuesday's win over the Dallas Stars, Winnipeg sat 13th overall in the league. Against the 12 teams above them, the Jets are just 7-11-5. Take away their nearly perfect record against the Blackhawks, who are 10th overall, and they drop to 4-11-4 against the nine best teams in the NHL.

Conversely, whenever they've played teams below them, especially the bottom feeders, the Jets have feasted on their opponents. They're 24-9-6 against the rest of the league and a sizzling 19-3-4 versus teams ranked 20 through 30.

What this means is that Jets have taken a step forward this season, but they're still a step, or two or three more, behind the top-tier teams, which is who they'll face if they make the playoffs.

Their most likely opponents are either Nashville or Anaheim, though they could catch Chicago and play St. Louis in the first round. Winnipeg's record against the Predators, Ducks and Blues? Just 1-5-2, with only 15 goals scored but 25 allowed. Don't bet on a first-round upset.

The Jets' record ...

- **vs. teams ranked 1-10:** 7-11-5
- **vs. teams ranked 20-30:** 24-9-6

The Jets are in a good position right now to make the playoffs. They were five points up on Calgary and San Jose heading into last night's action, the only two teams left that can catch them, and both of them are in trouble.

Calgary will begin to crumble now that teams are beginning to get into playoff mode. The Flames are near the bottom of the league in SAT (shot attempts) and USAT (unblocked shot attempts) and have played well above their heads the entire season. San Jose, meanwhile, is beginning to implode, going 3-6-1 in its past 10 and looking ready for a full-on rebuild.

By giving up only third- and six-round draft picks for Tlusty, Cheveldayoff boosted the present without sacrificing the future. If he now stands pat at the deadline, he'll have done the right thing.

Cheveldayoff deals draft picks for Tlusty

The Jets acquired Jiri Tlusty, who is a pending unrestricted free agent, on Wednesday. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Kevin Cheveldayoff thought the injury-stricken Winnipeg Jets could use a boost in their playoff drive so he pulled off his second trade this month.

The general manager swung a deal to acquire eight-year forward Jiri Tlusty from the Carolina Hurricanes on Wednesday for two draft picks.

Carolina gets a conditional sixth-round pick in this year's NHL draft, but it'll become a fifth-round pick if the Jets make the playoffs. The Hurricanes also get a third-rounder in the 2016 draft.

Point total

23

Tlusty, 26, was third in Carolina's scoring this season with 23 points — 13 goals and 10 assists — in 52 games.

"The third-round pick is a high price to pay at this time of the year," said Cheveldayoff. "It's certainly something that we don't take lightly, but as a group here we're trying to push. We're trying to push this group to give it an opportunity to make the playoffs and help in the development of this franchise."

Winnipeg (31-20-11) holds the first of two wild-card spots in the Western Conference with 73 points, four ahead of the Minnesota Wild. The Jets are also four points behind third-place Chicago in the Central Division.

Winnipeg hosts St. Louis on Thursday and is trying to get Tlusty to the city in time for the game. THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 SPORTS

Maybe the Winnipeg Jets' best move would be to hold on to Russian forward Alexander Burmistrov. THE CANADIAN PRESS/TREVOR HAGAN

Jets' best bet is to keep Burmistrov on board

VIEW FROM THE 300S
Andrew 'Hustler' Paterson
winnipeg@metronews.ca

Analysis

The time is now for Cheveldayoff to move a pick or two to help this team get to the next level, but hold off on trading Burmistrov. Sometimes the best trades are the ones you don't make.

Twenty games to go.

The Winnipeg Jets kicked off a crucial four-game homestand Tuesday with an important win over the Dallas Stars. Combined with some help on the out of town scoreboard, the Jets go into tonight's game versus St. Louis with a firm grip on their playoff spot, but in a dogfight that will likely come down to the final week of the season.

The question right now is will the team look any different next week than it does today? Is a bigger move than the Jiri Tlusty acquisition in the offing?

All eyes in Winnipeg will be on Jets GM Kevin Cheveldayoff leading into Monday's 2 p.m. NHL trade deadline. With only two games for the Jets before the buzzer on player movement this season, Cheveldayoff has some big decisions to make — like how to add depth to help his team qualify for the Stanley Cup playoffs, and at what price.

The Jets hold two first-round draft picks for the upcoming NHL draft. Those picks are off the table for any rental player available. Other draft picks will be in play, but in a seller's market, the Jets will likely be asked to part with one of their many prospects to seal a deal.

Count me among those who hope Alex Burmistrov is not one of the chips moved by the GM at the deadline for a rental player. After two years in the KHL, Burmistrov is ready to come back and take another crack at the NHL. The Jets still hold his NHL rights and it seems the player is open to a return to Winnipeg despite how things ended last time around.

Burmistrov, a former eighth overall pick, showed flashes of brilliance at times but frustrated former Jets coach Claude Noel. Rather than trade Burmistrov in a deal at the deadline, the Jets would be better off welcoming back the Russian forward next season and seeing how he can fit in under Paul Maurice.

Maurice spent a year coaching in the KHL and talked about how much he learned about Russian players during his time there when he arrived in Winnipeg. It would serve the Jets well to see if Maurice is the man to get the most out of the talented forward as opposed to trading his rights for a short term fix this season.

Shrewd drafting has provided the Jets with arguably the top collection of prospects in the NHL. The team looks set for the future. The time is now for Cheveldayoff to move a pick or two to help this team get to the next level, but hold off on trading Burmistrov. Sometimes the best trades are the ones you don't make.

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AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You won't be shy about telling others what you think but you are expecting too much if you expect everyone to agree with you and you may lose friends.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
According to the planets you will be taking on a lot more duties over the next few weeks. That may not be what you were hoping to hear but it will earn you more respect and money.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Something you hear from a friend will make you wonder if you have taken a wrong turn. Maybe you should retrace your footsteps and start again.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
No matter how annoyed you may be with a particular person this is not the time to put your feelings into words. Hit back only when you have more evidence to make your case.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Partners won't be happy if you go back on what you told them a few days ago. Your priorities have changed but if you made promises you must keep them.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You seem to believe the universe is against you but that is not true. Just because you have fallen out with a loved one over something minor does not mean it's the end of the world.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will get the chance to make serious progress in a creative endeavour of some sort. But don't get carried away because there is a lot of work to do yet.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Someone will play on your fears and make you think a situation is worse than it is. According to the planets you should reject everything you hear that makes you feel uneasy.

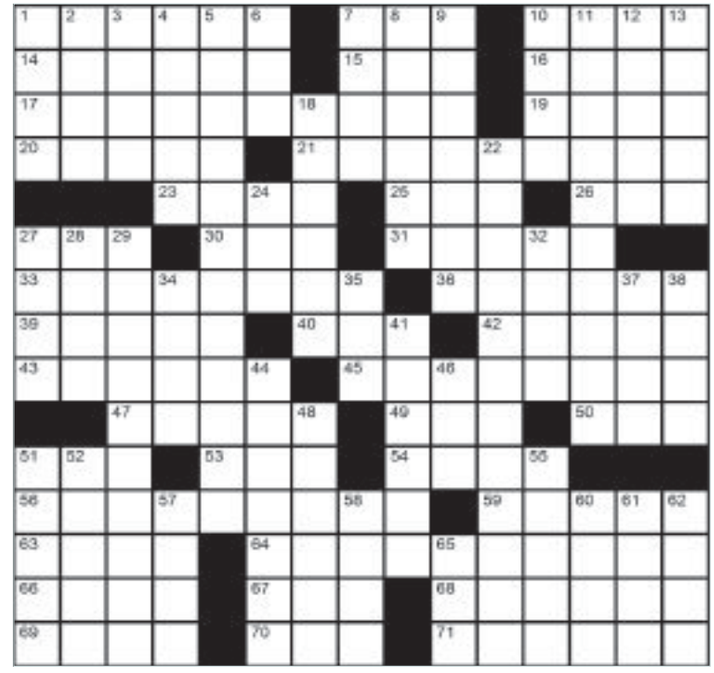
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You will have words with someone whose personality rubs you the wrong way. Less timid souls might keep their opinions to themselves. Why should you when you're the one in the right?

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Make the most of your newfound freedom to get out into the world and explore. Do something you have not been able to do for some time today.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
The only danger today is you might say too much and tip off a rival about what you are up to. Be wary if they try to engage you in personal conversation.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You will get advice from all directions today and if you are smart you will ignore it all. You already know what it is you should be doing. So, do it!

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across

1. Accounting reviews
7. Passenger's proof, puny-ly
10. 'Trillion'-meaning prefix
14. Noel Coward play, __ Spirit (Currently at the Princess of Wales Theatre in Toronto)
15. Poetic contraction
16. Bygone boy-friends, briefly
17. BC community near Langley
19. Performs
20. 1871 premiere city of Aida
21. Nunavut: __ Island
23. Certain curtain
25. Egyptian cobra
26. Batch
27. Religious robe
30. Dog type
31. "Eating __" (1982)
33. Terry David __, Canadian broad-caster/actor who is an alum of MuchMusic
36. Busybodies
39. Cooking, as potatoes
40. Kander and __ (Stage musicals song-writing team)
42. Opera voice
43. Kelly Clarkson's "__ Like Us"
45. Saw sort
47. Retro synthesizers
49. Bow
50. Agree-er's vote
51. Post-WWII female mil. aviators group
53. "That's splendid!"
54. Zeds alternatives
56. __ Head: According to The Flat Earth Society, it (located on Fogo Island, Newfoundland) is one of the four corners of the flat earth
59. Ranch sound effect
63. Fertilizer component
64. King Arthur's furniture piece: 2 wds.
66. Common seasoning
67. 'Guitar' suffix
68. Mr. Hammer's
69. Payola$ singer Paul
70. Acidity measures, commonly
71. Puts into disarray

Down

1. Rhyming pattern
2. "The Producers" (2005) role
3. "Little __ _ know..."
4. Roman roads
5. They might add pops of colour to a sofa: 2 wds.
6. Part [abbr.]
7. Wrench
8. Bulletproof vest fibre
9. Forest fluid: 2 wds.
10. Winnipeg Jets
11. Governor General of Canada: His __ the Right Honourable David Johnston
12. Ode-to-the-past style
13. Holding
18. Music style
22. Highlights/scores and more program on TSN
24. Jul. follower
27. Draw _ __ (Do cartography)
28. Car mechanic's job
29. Rural village in Ontario's Prince Edward County
32. Slangy one-eighty turns
34. Bev. Hills clinic request
35. US TV channel
37. Casanova
38. Mlle. cousin
41. Audacious
44. Vain vacay: 2 wds.
46. State above Calif.
48. Nike logo
51. George _. __, 43rd President
52. Wide assortment
55. Tailoring lines
57. Pen brand, with Paper
58. __ and bolts
60. Nile wader
61. Hilarity
62. __ Village, in Hamilton
65. Beaver's construction

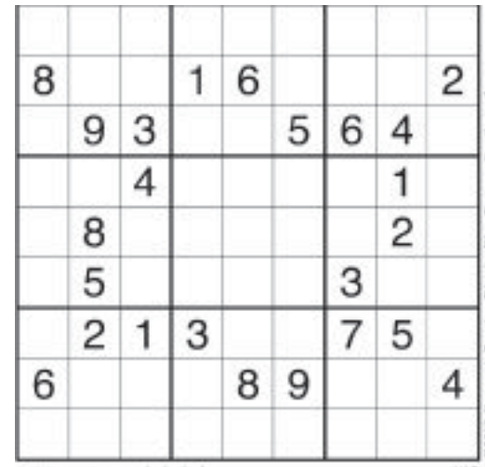
Yesterday's Crossword

Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



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Yesterday's Sudoku

7	5	3	6	8	1	9	2	4
6	9	2	7	4	3	1	8	5
1	8	4	5	2	9	6	3	7
2	6	7	1	3	5	4	9	8
3	1	8	9	7	4	2	5	6
9	4	5	8	6	2	3	7	1
8	7	9	3	1	6	5	4	2
5	2	1	4	9	8	7	6	3
4	3	6	2	5	7	8	1	9

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